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Kennedy offers to quit race if...

WASHINGTON, May 15 (R) — Senator Edward Kennedy said today he would give up his quest for the presidency if President Carter agreed to a face-to-face debate with him and then went on to win the last round of Democratic Party primary elections. The White House quickly rejected his proposal. "There's not going to be any debate," deputy press secretary Ray Jenkins said. Mr. Kennedy made his dramatic — but carefully hedged — offer to quit the Democratic presidential race in a campaign speech delivered in Los Angeles, the text of which was issued in Washington. He made clear he was offering the president a choice: Submit to a face-to-face debate on campaign issues or face a bitter battle at the Democratic presidential nominating convention in August. By unofficial count, the president had 1,533 of the 1,666 delegates needed to win the nomination. The senator was credited with 820. Many political experts say the president could go well over the 1,666 level in primaries to be held before the June 3 primary finals.

World Bank gives Peking 'China seat'

WASHINGTON, May 15 (R) — The World Bank decided today to give China the membership previously held by Taiwan, moving it into fuller economic partnership with the non-communist world. The bank, a lender of last resort for many poor nations, had decided that the government of the People's Republic of China represents China in the World Bank group. Taiwan was mentioned by name in the brief World Bank statement, but move paralleled that made last month by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which gave the Peking government the "China seat" and expelled Taiwan. The decision gives China longer economic ties with the non-communist world and let bloc states toward a more market-oriented economy. The World Bank lends about \$10 billion a year for development projects in poorer countries. The IMF, in addition to facilitating international transactions, helps countries that have balance of payments problems.

Iranians alerted to U.S.-backed coup d'etat

TEHRAN, May 15 (R) — A hardline Islamic group today alerted Iranians to an alleged U.S.-backed plot to stage a coup d'etat in the name of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

In a statement published in the Tehran press, the "Crusaders of the Islamic Revolution" said: "It is probable the coup d'etat would be in the name of Islam and even supporting the Imam and his line."

The statement by the Crusaders, a militant faction of the powerful Islamic Republican Party (IRP), was the latest in a series of warnings of coups and American plots to appear in the Iranian press since last month's abortive U.S. attempt to rescue the hostages held in Iran.

President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr said on state radio last night he had received information from undisclosed sources in the United States that Washington had staged a fresh military incursion.

It involved the landing of 96 U.S. agents in various parts of Iran to cause sabotage during the coming two weeks, the president said. He alleged 19 Iranians, all long-term residents of the United States, had also been infiltrated to lead the operations.

President Bani-Sadr said any incidents that did take place would be the responsibility of the Americans and the people should not attach any blame to the armed forces.

The Crusaders of the Islamic Revolution, in contrast, alleged the coup plot would be launched by U.S. agents within the armed forces with the cooperation of fifth columnists, Free-Masons, British intelligence and the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad.

The recent spate of coup theories have been accompanied by almost daily reports of alleged sightings of U.S. planes and helicopters and arrests of foreigners in the provinces.

A Revolutionary Guard spokesman in the eastern province of Khorasan was today quoted as saying between 20 and 30 alleged agents had been arrested near the town of Tabas, in the area where the U.S. commando force landed last April 24.

In an attempt to stem unrest in the Kurdish region, the government today allocated 20 billion rials (\$285 million) to the province of Kurdistan for development and welfare projects.

The official view of the unrest by autonomy-seeking Kurdish guerrillas is that it is being fostered by American agents in order to overthrow the central government.

President Bani-Sadr alleged last night that the U.S. was sending arms to the Kurds as part of its latest intervention.

Regional Briefs

LONDON, May 15 (R) — Two Americans have been arrested in Libya, the official Libyan news agency (JANA) reported today. It said in a three-line dispatch that the two had been arrested in Tripoli by the people's committee for justice. JANA said they had been involved in a spy ring and had had connections with terrorist organizations. In Washington, U.S. State Department officials identified them as Robert Price and Michael Frey. They were arrested on March 19 by U.S. consular officers have not been allowed access to them, U.S. officials said.

DAMASCUS, May 15 (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad today issued a decree giving the prime minister power to take some decisions which earlier required a republican decree. The decree, Assad said, was issued to enable the prime minister to be able to take some decisions which earlier required a republican decree. He said the prime minister would be entitled to promote, transfer, dismiss or suspend government officials. He said the prime minister would also be entitled to refer officials to a disciplinary council and to accept resignations. An official source said the decree would enable the prime minister to take measures for the reorganization of the administration and putting the right man in the right place.

EL AVIV, May 15 (R) — A member of a Romanian dance troupe appeared last night a few minutes before she was supposed to appear at the Bucharest, Israeli airport officials said today. Elena Tutan, of the Romanian Bucur Dance Troupe, arrived Ben Gurion airport last night with 14 other members of the troupe at the end of a month's performances in Israel. El Al said the dancer did not fly back to Romania with the rest of the troupe. Israeli foreign and interior ministry spokesmen refused to confirm or deny that Mrs. Tutan had applied for political asylum in Israel.

UWAIT, May 15 (R) — South Korean President Choi Kyu-Hab today left for Saudi Arabia to begin a state visit to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia today which he sought secure oil supplies and expanded trade and economic cooperation. It was the first visit by a South Korean leader to the Gulf countries and the first overseas trip by President Choi since he succeeded assassinated President Park Chung-Hee in December. In Kuwait yesterday, chief government spokesman Abdul Aziz Hussein said Kuwait had agreed to sign crude oil contracts with South Korean firms, probably marking the start of a direct oil deals between the two countries. South Korea has several construction projects in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia worth billions of dollars. A joint Korean-Kuwaiti joint communiqué today expressed mutual satisfaction with the developing cooperation, and said the two countries were determined to expand this cooperation in all fields. Matters of mutual interest, in Palestine case and the Middle East and the Korean issues were covered by the talks between the Kuwaiti and Korean leaders, the communiqué said.

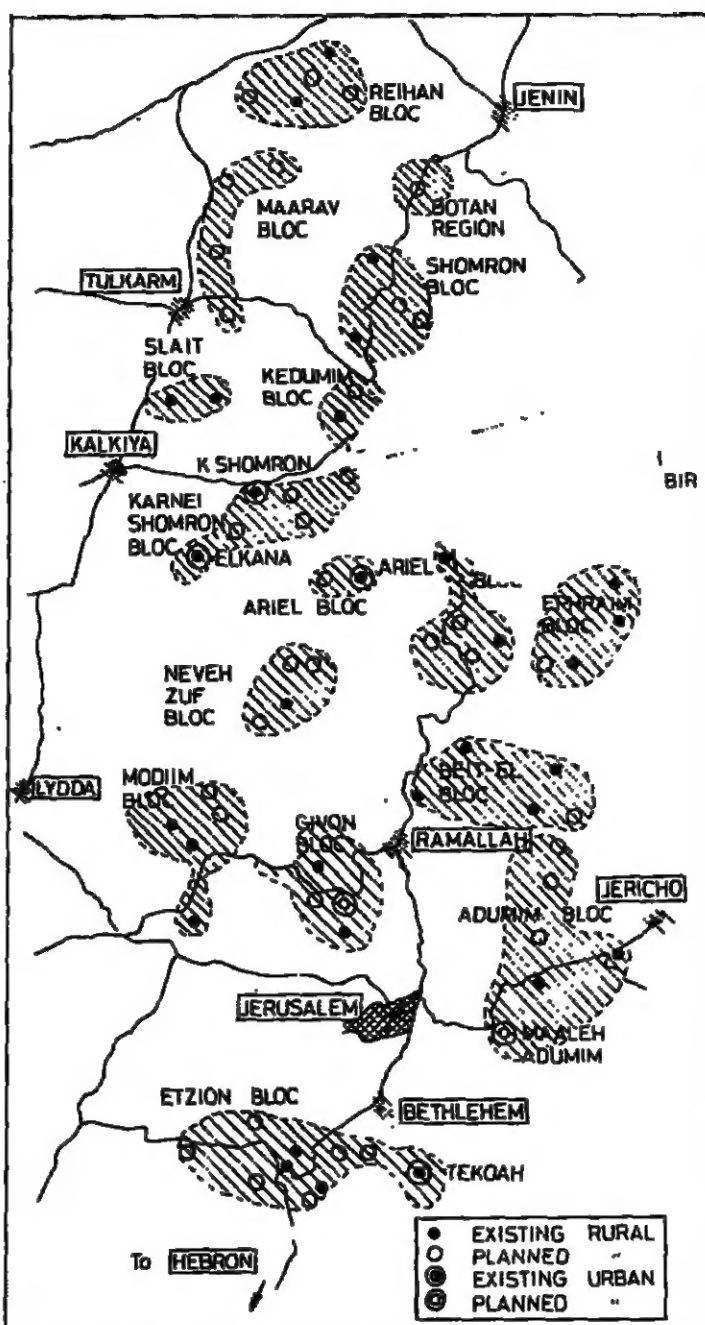
ANKARA, May 15 (R) — Turkey's state minister in charge of religious affairs, Mr. Mehmet Kelleci, resigned yesterday after the Soviet delegations by the Istanbul weekly publication Hafta Sonu that he was having an affair with a young woman. In a letter of resignation, Kelleci said he was resigning because "the government cannot tolerate such rumors." Mr. Kelleci is married with three children.

BAHRAIN, May 15 (R) — French Defence Minister Yves Bourges left Bahrain today for Paris after talks with government officials about defence co-operation between the two countries. French officials said Mr. Bourges arrived here on Tuesday after his visit to Saudi Arabia and Qatar. In Bahrain, he met the Amir, Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa, Defence Minister Sheikh Jamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa and members of the Bahrain defence force.

UWAIT, May 15 (R) — The Soviet Union does not intend to support crude oil from the Gulf, its ambassador to Kuwait, Mr. Nikolai Sikachov, said in a newspaper interview published today. Moscow has not offered to buy oil from Kuwait or any other Gulf country because it is not only the biggest producer of this oil and strategic commodity but also an exporter, he told the newspaper Al-Sayassa. But he said it did occasionally buy Kuwaiti oil products to fulfil some obligations to third countries. Mr. Sikachov also said: "We have clearly stated our preparedness to have normal diplomatic relations with the Gulf states and, therefore, believe that the issue rests with the states in the region." Apart from Iraq, Iran and Kuwait, the Soviet Union has no diplomatic links with any other Gulf country. The envoy said the Soviet Union had unconditionally supplied weapons, including ground-to-ground missiles, to Kuwait.



Valencia (Spain) players Carrete (second left) and Tardillo holding the cup after winning the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup at Haysel Stadium in Brussels Wednesday night. Valencia defeated Arsenal (London) on penalties after their match ended in a 0-0 draw (after extra time). At right is Arias of Valencia. See page 5. (AP wirephoto)



This map shows proposed settlements for the West Bank and existing settlements affected by the "Master Plan for Development of Settlement in Judea and Samaria (West Bank) 1979-1983." The area around Hebron is not shown. Settlements near Hebron mentioned in the plan include Amos, a large community settlement northeast of Hebron and Tarquimyah north of Hebron. (Jordan Times map by Sara O'Neill)

Urges Israel to be more positive Egypt announces deadlock in autonomy negotiations

CAIRO, May 15 (Agencies) — Egypt said today that negotiations with Israel on Palestinian autonomy had reached a deadlock and could not continue until Israel adopted a more positive attitude towards the talks.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali told a news conference that Egypt's decision not to resume the year-old talks was in response to an Israeli draft law to make Jerusalem its undivided capital.

(The Israeli Knesset yesterday approved the legislation.)

Dr. Ghali said: "This is proof that the Israelis do not have the will to find a settlement (to the Palestinian question). 'We are waiting for the Israelis to take a more positive attitude,' Dr. Ghali added. He declined to define

under what conditions Egypt would resume the talks.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokesman Thomas Reston said tonight that, to his knowledge, there has not been any information on the new Egyptian move.

"We will be talking about it. We are going to attack the problem urgently," he said.

But he added that the State Department did not consider the new Egyptian move to be "a matter of critical crisis proportions."

In occupied Jerusalem, Israeli government officials declined to comment for publication on Egypt's decision not to resume the talks, but admitted that it came as a complete surprise.

One official in the prime minister Menachem Begin's office said that the Israeli negotiating team had been meeting to draw up new proposals on various issues.

"But now, all this will be suspended until the matter is cleared up," the official said. "If Egypt thinks that its latest tactics will contribute to finding a solution to complex problems, it is mistaken."

Dr. Ghali described the decision to suspend the talks indefinitely as "one of the most important crises" so far, but he reaffirmed Egypt's determination to resolve the Palestinian question by negotiation.

He accused the Israeli government of trying to make the "unification" of Jerusalem a fait accompli by preparing the new law.

Egypt maintains that East Jerusalem is an integral part of the West Bank and must be represented on the proposed Palestinian autonomous council.

Dr. Ghali said the Israeli government's refusal to abandon its policy of settling Jews on the West Bank, the recent expulsion of three West Bank Palestinian leaders and the subsequent "repressive measures" in the occupied territories were also factors in Egypt's decision.

"All the negative aspects are coming from the other side... The Israelis must show their good intentions," he said.

Quadruples Jewish population by '83 Israel discloses secret W. Bank settlement plan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 15 (R) — Israel today disclosed a secret plan for extensive new Jewish settlement on the occupied West Bank aimed at quadrupling the Jewish population there within the next three years.

Mr. Mattityahu Drobless, chairman of the Jewish Agency's settlement department, which is responsible for establishing Israeli settlements in occupied lands, told reporters today that Israel would set up 29 new settlements in the West Bank by October 1983. Each one would house between 200-300 Jewish families, he added.

A settlement department official told Reuters today the plan was first presented by Mr. Drobless to the Israeli government in October 1978.

It was marked "secret" and distributed only to cabinet ministers and members of the Jewish Agency Executive. But, a few months ago, the plan leaked out to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which distributed it in the United Nations.

A full account of the Drobless plan was given by the Jordan Times in an article on December 30, 1979.

"We felt there was no point in keeping it a secret when it has now been translated into eight languages including Chinese," the official said.

He added that the translations and maps of the plan appended to them, which were distributed among U.N. Security Council members, were "absolutely accurate with nothing added or taken away."

The official said he had no idea how the secret plan fell into PLO hands.

"We know there are government ministers and Jewish Agency Executive members who oppose settlement in the West Bank. But it's hard to imagine them giving the information to the PLO," he said.

The original plan called for 59 settlements to be set up. Since October 1978, 30 have been established already. Israel now has a total of 44 settlements on the West Bank, which it has occupied since the 1967 Middle East war. They have a total population of about 14,000, according to Israeli figures.

Israel's West Bank settlement policy has met with worldwide opposition and condemnation.

Israel's chief ally, the United States, has repeatedly said the settlements are an obstacle to the Middle East peace process started by the Camp David accords of 1978.

PLO condemns Israel for annexing Jerusalem

BEIRUT, May 15 (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said tonight it viewed with great concern Israel's decision to formally annex occupied Jerusalem and urged world opinion to help block the move.

A PLO Executive Committee statement followed the adoption yesterday by the Israeli Knesset of a bill declaring that Jerusalem, including the Arab sector, would remain under Israeli sovereignty and be the seat of its national institutions.

"The PLO Executive Committee, following with great concern the premises of this serious decision, considers that Arab, Islamic, Christian and world opinion is directly and decisively called upon to seek by all means and methods to stop this grave decision and contain all its extremely serious results," it said.

The statement said the Islamic foreign ministers' conference opening in Islamabad on Saturday should confront what it described as a serious challenge to Islamic holy places in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, a hardline Palestinian commando group warned today that it considered all Jewish settlements as legitimate targets for attack.

The warning by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) followed a raid by its commandos yesterday into northern Israel in which three Palestinian commandos died in a gun battle with Israeli troops.

In a communique marking the anniversary of the establishment of the Zionist state in 1948, the PFLP described Israel as a racist state serving the interests of world imperialism. It would not survive because its existence was incompatible with the march of history.

It said the Palestinians would fight Israel's settlement policy and considered both old and new settlements as "a legitimate target for our revolutionaries."

At the United Nations, the Palestinian Rights Committee called today for "practical action" by the Security Council to make Israel readmit three Palestinian leaders it expelled from the occupied West Bank on May 3 and denied reentry last Sunday.

The committee said in a letter that Israel's refusal to readmit the three in defiance of a council resolution last Thursday further obstructed "prospects for peace and stability not only in the region but in the entire world."

It shows once more, the letter said, that Israel "has no intention of helping to find peaceful solution of the question of Palestine which forms the core of the Middle East problem."

"The committee is convinced that in the face of this attitude, concrete and practical action by the Security Council is urgently called for in order to prevent a deterioration of the situation and a threat to international peace and security."

The three men barred from Israel are Hebron Mayor Fahd Qawasm, Mayor Mohammad Milhem of Halhoul and I-Jamic Judge Rajab Tamimi of Hebron.

U.N. diplomats said yesterday they expected at least two mayors would go to New York this week and be heard by the council.

To settle international disputes Warsaw Pact calls for major world conference

WARSAW, May 15 (R) — Leaders of the Warsaw Pact states tonight called for a major world conference to settle international disputes.

The Polish News Agency (PAP) said the political and military chiefs of the seven-nation alliance during a two-day summit which ended here today proposed a top-level meeting of the leaders of all the regions of the world.

PAP said the meeting was designed to remove the hotbeds of international tension and prevent war.

The chief PAP report, issued before the publication of a joint declaration by the Warsaw Pact leaders, said the world conference proposal was an initiative by the treaty states to strengthen the hopes for peace.

"They propose to convene in the nearest future a top-level meeting of the leaders of states of all the regions of the world," the Polish agency said.

"The participants in that meeting should focus their attention on a task which is the concern of both the European nations and all mankind — the task of removing the hotbeds of international tension and preventing war," it added.

The military and political chiefs of the eastern bloc alliance who had conferred for two-days behind closed doors did not immediately publish their declaration but Polish leader Edward Giersek described it as a momentous document.

"A momentous document comes as a result of (our) work, in which we contrast our realistic vis-

ion of the programme of peaceful development with the policy of the aggravation of tension and revival of the spirit of cold war," Mr. Giersek said.

Mr. Giersek, speaking at a luncheon for the leaders of the pact states, said he hoped the declaration would be received by all governments with due attention. "Its main target is the elimination of the present tension... there is no reasonable alternative to the policy of détente," he added.

Polish officials said the declaration was adopted unanimously by all the pact states — the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and East Germany.

Mr. Giersek also recalled that the communist bloc had fully backed his offer to be host for a new European disarmament conference in Warsaw and this proposal was thought likely to figure prominently in the joint declaration.

Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, replying to Mr. Giersek's speech at the final lunch session, said he was certain the Warsaw Pact declaration would have significant bearing on the present international situation.

"In the present complex situation, when millions of people feel anxious about the destiny of détente and peace, a firm warning resounds from Warsaw against the policy of war adventures and the feverish arms race," Mr. Brezhnev said.

Officials in Warsaw said they did not know when the declaration would be published.



Jordan asks UNESCO to intervene on Jerusalem

PARIS, May 15 (JNA)—Jordan has asked the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to take speedy and effective action to stop the Israeli authorities from pursuing their policy of Judaizing Arab Jerusalem.

This was contained in an address made by Jordan's deputy representative at the organisation's executive council meeting here which has been called to consider UNESCO's programmes for the next three years.

The deputy representative, Mr. Ahmad Tawil said the Israeli measures are bound to change the cultural, religious and demographic character of the holy city. He urged UNESCO to continue to bear the responsibility of supervising education in the occupied Arab territories and told the session that Jordan is now bearing a large part of the effort to provide the Palestinian refugees with education.

He called on world nations to contribute to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency's (UNRWA) budget in an effort to help the agency continue its educational services to the nearly 150,000 Palestinian refugee students whose schools are faced with closure because of UNRWA's deficit.

Arab League secretary general leaves



Mr. Chadli Klibi
AMMAN, May 15 (JNA) — The Arab League Secretary General will now embark on detailed arrangements for the eleventh Arab summit to be held in Amman in November and the conference of Arab and foreign ministers to be held here in July, Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi said today.

Speaking before his departure from Amman at the end of a two-day visit to Jordan, Mr. Klibi said in his talks with His Majesty King Hussein he discussed subjects connected with that conference and current Arab and international affairs.

During the visit he also met with Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Marwan Al Qasbi.

Arab experts end education seminar

AMMAN, May 15 (JNA) — A five-day seminar on academic and vocational training in the Arab world ended here today.

During the seminar experts from Arab states presented working papers which reviewed education in the Arab world and ways of encouraging and guiding vocational training.

In addition the seminar called on the Arab states to contribute to the United Nations Relief and Welfare Agency's budget to help it continue its educational services for Palestinian refugees.

Recommendations included: — establishing special departments at Arab ministries of education to offer guidance in academic and vocational training, — analysing the labour market in order to determine its requirements for manpower in order to plan academic and vocational training courses, — developing and modernising school curricula in the Arab world, with a view to giving the student the chance of selecting his or her vocational or academic specialisation, and

— establishment of a regional centre sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to coordinate research work on academic and vocational training.

The seminar was organised by UNESCO in cooperation with the Jordanian ministry of education.

JD 27.5m loan agreement signed with Iraq, Abu Dhabi

AMMAN, May 15 (JNA)—A Jordanian delegation returned here last night from Iraq and the United Arab Emirates after signing six loan agreements worth about JD 27.5 million with the Iraqi government and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development.

The head of the delegation, National Planning Council President Hanna Odeh, said the five agreements signed in Baghdad were included in the Jordanian-Iraqi technical and economic cooperation protocol signed earlier this month. He added that the total value of these agreements is 26 million Iraqi dinars, which is roughly equivalent to the same amount in Jordanian dinars.

Of this sum, JD 3 million will be spent on expanding and equipping Aqaba Port, and JD 15 million on enlarging and extending the Azraq-Amman-Aqaba road, which will entail constructing a road linking Al Juwaydah with Muwaqqar and Azraq as well as enlarging the Aqaba Quweira road and building a road parallel to the Aqaba highway between Juwaydah and Wadi Al Ahyad.

A total of JD 4 million, Dr. Odeh said, will go towards expanding the Aqaba free zone,

and ID 1.5 million will go for a housing project in Irbid, which involves the construction of 380 housing units for civil servants. The remaining JD 2.5 will go towards the construction of an alternate highway between Amman and Zarqa.

The loans, repayable over a 10 to 12 years period, carry 2.5 per cent interest. Repayment will start when the projects have been completed.

Dr. Odeh said The \$5 million loan Abu Dhabi fund will help finance the Jordanian Industry Company. Dr. Odeh said will start production next year. The company is JD 40 million state-owned, with private sector and foreign institutions.

Norway Red Cross g rescue boat to Aqaba

AMMAN, May 15 (JNA) — The Norwegian Red Cross today presented to the Aqaba branch of the Jordanian Red Crescent Association a rescue boat during a ceremony held here under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The boat, equipped with sea-rescue and first aid equipment will be a nucleus for a sea rescue centre to be established in Aqaba.

A representative of the Norwegian Red Cross who made the presentation lauded the existing cooperation with the Jordanian

Red Crescent Assoc. referred to a visit made last year by the president of the Norwegian Red Cross to Aqaba. He said the Red Cross will offer further aid to help the new project.

Also speaking during the ceremony was the representative of the Red Crescent Association who outlined the association's plans to safeguard the city's inhabitants and

Follow the leader

IT IS not often that we feel constrained to reprint an editorial from The New York Times on the Middle East question. The editorial policy of that great grey newspaper has traditionally been shaped as much by the fact that its hometown readership includes the largest Jewish community of any city in the world as by the fact that the paper itself is Jewish-owned. But neither has the paper hesitated in the past to take distinctly unorthodox or non-conformist views on subjects of great import. It largely led the way in the nationwide American soul-searching that preceded the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam and the resignation of President Nixon. We can assume, then, that a similar soul-searching must be under way in the more enlightened quarters of the U.S. over the crimes being committed by Israel in the occupied Arab territories, and the U.S.'s position as the main prop of the Begin regime. In an editorial this week entitled "A West Bank Eulogy," The New York Times wrote:

"The diplomacy of the living is too often sacrificed to respect for the dead, and nowhere more than in the battlegrounds of the Middle East. The terror-killing of Israelis is regularly cited to justify terror against Arabs, and the other way around. And observers far from the danger zone are expected to fall silent before the grave, disqualified by distance from any opinion about the slaughter and the politics that produce it. Martyrdom thus becomes not an attribute of the fallen but a weapon for those who fight on, justly or not."

To the Times, of course as to anyone, one man's martyr is another man's "terrorist," but in that lead paragraph the Times editorialist seems to be circling in on a compelling point. The writer goes on to refer to the killings of six Jewish settlers in the occupied Arab city of Hebron two weeks ago, "the day after a young Palestinian was killed while allegedly assaulting the Israeli military governor of the West Bank." The editorial continues:

"Many Israelis concluded wisely in their grief that such violence is the inevitable fruit of a policy of provocative settlement and annexation of the region. But many also heard only a call to violent vengeance. And at the consecration of new martyrs, U.S. critics of the Begin government's West Bank policy were expected to show only silent respect for the dead."

There follow two paragraphs which, if they shocked us, must have spoiled many a breakfast in Brooklyn and Manhattan, to wit:

"We are deeply indebted, therefore, to the U.S. parents of one of the Hebron victims for their graveside wisdom. Their son, James Eli Mahon Jr., turns out to have been a sad and dangerous figure who loved to kill, particularly in a cause that fulfilled the religious and aggressive anti-Communism to which he was reared. Not content with a full measure of killing in Vietnam, he finally turned up in Israel as Eli Hazezev, changed his religion and gravitated to the most fanatic and violent fringe groups that encouraged his stalking the West Bank in search of new victims."

"Hazezev's father, a retired U.S. Air Force colonel, refused at the funeral to accept a rabbi's assurance that his son had died in a holy cause. The father said he was grateful for the attempted solace but regretful about the tactics his son had chosen to live by. Hazezev's mother put it even more succinctly, and universally: 'We keep honouring the dead,' she said. 'But they were dead wrong.'"

It will be interesting indeed to see whether this really does indicate an agonising reappraisal among Americans of their government's ill-advised support for Begin's expansionism, and how long it will take for the rest of the country to follow the lead of The New York Times.

What U.S. presidential candidates say about the Middle East

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

EDITOR'S NOTE: Five major U.S. presidential candidates recently prepared statements on their foreign policy positions, which were published last week in the International Herald Tribune. Following are excerpts from those statements relating to the Middle East (these statements were all prepared before the abortive American rescue attempt in Iran and the resulting resignation of former secretary of state Cyrus Vance).

ALL FIVE candidates, Democratic and Republican, placed heavy emphasis in their foreign policy statements on superpower conflict, and what they see as the pressing need to counter the Soviet Union's military might. Practically every line of the statements is dominated by this confrontation—the sections relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict no less than those on Iran or Afghanistan.

In writing about the Middle East, however, the candidates also reveal their preoccupation with the, to them, inalienable American right to oil from the region.

President Jimmy Carter

Mr. Carter avoids mentioning the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Camp David agreements, for reasons which are not clear. He does, however, mention Iran, Afghanistan and the Gulf, and ends his statement with some sentences which may be seen as ironic in the light of subsequent events. He begins with a recital of the "facts" behind his foreign policy since he came to office in 1977:

My policies have been directed in particular at three areas of change: — The steady growth and increased projection abroad of Soviet military power — power that has grown faster than our own over the past two decades. — The overwhelming dependence of Western nations, which now includes the United States, on vital oil supplies from the Middle East. — The pressures of change in many nations of the developing world, including the year-old revolution in Iran and uncertainty about the future in many other countries.

As a result of those fundamental facts, we face some of the most serious challenges in the history of this nation. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is a threat to global peace, to East-West relations, and to regional stability and to the flow of oil. As the unprecedented and overwhelming vote in the UN General Assembly demonstrated, countries across the world — and particularly the nonaligned — regard the Soviet invasion as a threat to their independence and security.

release of our hostages in Iran.

We have no basic quarrel with the nation, the revolution or the people of Iran. The threat to them comes not from American policy but from Soviet actions in the region. We are prepared to work with the government of Iran to develop a new and mutually beneficial relationship.

But that will not be possible so long as Iran continues to hold Americans hostage, in defiance of the world community and civilised behaviour. They must be released unharmed. We have thus far pursued a measured programme of peaceful diplomatic and economic steps in an attempt to resolve this issue without resorting to other remedies available to us under international law. This reflects the deep respect of our nation for the rule of law and for the safety of our people being held, and our belief that a great power bears a responsibility to use its strength in a measured and judicious manner. But our patience is not unlimited and our concern for the well-being of our fellow citizens grows each day.

Congressman John B. Anderson

Mr. Anderson speaks of the benefits of attempts to cooperate, as well as to compete, with the Soviet Union. He also calls on America's Western allies to play a fuller role in their own



defence. But in concentrating on these matters, he makes some remarks in passing which shed some interesting light on his perceptions of the Middle East conflict:

Our purpose should not be solely to deny the Soviets access to the benefits of cooperative relationship. Rather, it should be made clear that the price of cooperation is civilised, international behaviour. Violent international conduct, such as the aggression in Afghanistan, and military support for terrorist organisations such as extreme elements in the Palestine Liberation Organisation, are inconsistent with the criterion of civilised conduct.

Failure on the part of Europe to increase its own self-defence efforts will result in a weakening of the NATO alliance as many Americans may demand that their forces be used to protect American interests in Asia, the Middle East, or Africa.

Former U.N. ambassador George Bush

Mr. Bush writes of a crisis of U.S. leadership, as shown by recent events and also by certain symbols:

Perhaps the most poignant symbol of all is the padlocked U.S. Embassy compound in Tehran, where 50 American hostages are in their sixth month of captivity. For the holding of these hostages is but the tragic culmination of a long series of foreign policy blunders by the Carter administration. The hostages are flesh and blood victims of years of vacillation and impotence based on false optimism regarding the state of the world in which we live.



Mr. George Bush on the campaign trail

In April, 1978, the government of Afghanistan was overthrown, its president murdered, and a Communist government installed. The Carter administration did nothing except to offer aid to the new Afghan regime. Last September, there was an abortive coup against that same regime, and again we did nothing.

We were also wringing our hands over the disintegration and collapse of the Shah of Iran, who for years had been regarded by every U.S. administration as a vital bulwark against Soviet expansion toward the Gulf. Incredibly, during this period, the Carter administration also halted all military assistance to Pakistan and opened talks with the Russians to demilitarise the Indian Ocean.

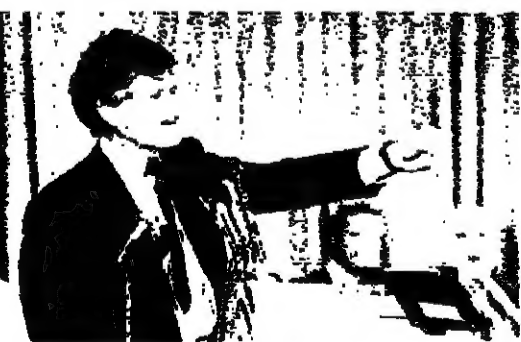
Even more surprising, Jimmy Carter, in a remarkable confession on a television talk show shortly after Afghanistan fell to Soviet tanks, said he had acquired a new understanding of Soviet intentions.

And Mr. Bush shows that he, too, sees Gulf oil as an American right in the context of his remarks about America's allies:

Every industrial nation has a vital stake in maintaining the free flow of foodstuffs, of petroleum, and of industrial raw materials. Close consultation with our allies, therefore, is urgently needed, yet amidst the wreckage of its own failed policies the Carter administration stands mute, confused and helpless.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy

Mr. Kennedy, the only Democratic candidate in this series besides Mr. Carter, is also the only one



Mr. Edward Kennedy dramatises a point

to make any mention of Camp David. The remark comes in the context of yet another call to arms — a call for a "strong military force in the world as it exists."

Nowhere has the ambiguity and confusion been more apparent than in our relations with the Soviet Union.

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan made consideration of SALT impractical at best and raised new questions of the direction of Soviet policy. The brutal invasion itself occurred against a background of our infrequent and weak remonstrations at an obvious, purposeful buildup of Soviet military power in Afghanistan over the prior 18 months.

And so now we have the worlds. We have lost essentially for the arms limitation treaty not disclosed the Soviets from Iran. And we have strained our allies. Without consulting before seeking a collective res administration unilaterally de-undefined Carter doctrine in that seemed about to propel ill-defined adventure.

In the Middle East, I believe stand, as we have always stand, our surest ally, and end of pressures on Israel and flirt the PLO which jeopardise office's role and undermine the bilateral peace negotiation stem from the Camp David acc will continue to support the people and recognise the real President Sadat has taken in th of peace...

Our capacity to pursue these depends in part on our military. We must never put in question any deterrent or our capacity to ourselves or come to the aid of a We must maintain a strong milit in the world as it exists.

Former Governor Ronald Reagan

Mr. Reagan is the harshest of all five in his remarks about the Soviet Union's "empire." Nor does he refrain from speaking glowing terms of "American capitalism as a for economic development," as something exported to the nations of the Third World.

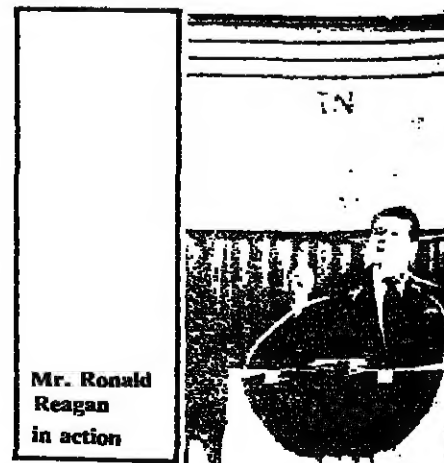
But to those who remember the battles of the "hawks" and the "doves" of the 11 comparison between the statements of Reagan and Mr. Kennedy shows some fascinating similarities — not only in global policy but locally as they relate to the Middle East.

After outlining the vacillations and crisis Carter administration, Mr. Reagan writes:

Confronted by so many crises, we would all like to find out What can be done, tomorrow, to diplomats in Tehran? What can be now to turn back the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan?

In the Middle East, our ally with Israel must be continued benefit of both countries. Israel, a democracy sharing our own values, serves as a vital strategic asset with highly trained and experienced military forces, and is a deterrent to expansion in that troubled part of world.

But after these remarks, one may wonder Mr. Reagan means when he writes:



Mr. Ronald Reagan in action

We must continue efforts to win friendship and trust of the other nations of the Middle East, but we must attempt to impose our solution to problems there.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'Y: It was not strange that Israel should choose the eve of May 15, the anniversary of its creation, to challenge the whole international community by passing a law on Wednesday annexing the Arab sector of Jerusalem as part of the capital of Israel.

Even if Israel has become blind by its intransigence and is egged on by American support and European leniency, the historical fact remains that the Holy City is Arab. The future of Arab Jerusalem cannot be decided by a law issued by the enemy, its Arab character is too deeply rooted.

The aggressive law issued by the Knesset is further evidence that the struggle against the Zionist invasion cannot be settled except by the Arabs. AL DUSTOUR: Jerusalem has always been the most strategic objective of the Zionist onslaught on the land of Palestine because it represents the heart of the Arab nation, and by oppressing it Israel is trying to dampen the spirit of Arab struggle.

The consensus of all Israeli political trends on this law is considered an indication of the unity of these trends concerning Zionist goals and ambitions with regard to all Palestinian soil. The Arab answer should be to set up a unified Arab front capable of responding to the Zionist challenges through serious action to deter the enemy and put an end to its obstinacy.

The new Israeli law is the biggest challenge to the Arab and Islamic worlds. It should not pass unopposed and without punishment.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Poster and Paintings Exhibition

The Jordanian Artists' Association presents an exhibition of posters and paintings under the patronage of the minister of culture and youth. The exhibition will run daily from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and from 4 - 7 p.m. through May 25 at the Artists' Association Exhibition Hall, across the street from the French Cultural Centre, in Jabal Luweideh.

Photography Exhibition

A photo exhibition entitled "My Library" is being presented by the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives, in cooperation with the Danish Ministry of Cultural Affairs. The exhibition features photographs of Danish public libraries. Visiting hours are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 4 - 6 p.m. The department is located on the fourth floor of the New Insurance Building in Jabal Amman.

Conference debates school buildings, teachers

By Samira Kassar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, May 15 — As the Conference on Education in a Developing Jordanian Society entered its last day, participants in this morning's sessions heard two papers on the problems of securing adequate school premises to keep up with the annually increasing rate of growth in the number of students and on improving the professional standards and living conditions of Jordanian teachers.

The first paper, dealing with the shortage of school premises, estimated that within the next five years, 180 new school buildings would be required to absorb the increase in the number of students at elementary level, while 52 new buildings would be required within the same period for academic secondary school students and 27 new buildings for vocational secondary school students.

The paper also posed the use of rented school premises which have mostly proven unsuitable for educational purposes as a problem worthy of serious consideration. It proposed that enough school buildings be made available over the next ten years so as to enable the Ministry of Education to do away with the present two-shift a day scheme. It also posed the problem of the high cost of skilled labour which hampers the maintenance of school buildings and the difficulty of finding

enough trained labourers to carry out maintenance operations especially in remote areas of the country.

The paper recommended that the government funds allocated to the Ministry of Education for the setting up of educational facilities in its annual (budget) be increased under the new five year plan. It called for the setting up of a special fund in the Ministry of Education financed by donations from Jordanian and other contributors. It suggested that contributions made to the fund be exempt from income tax to encourage local contributors.

Commenting on the contents of the first paper, Dr. Khalil Salem, the former governor of the Central Bank and a former cabinet minister, said regional and town planning schemes should see to it that enough lands were allocated for the setting up of schools all over Jordan. He suggested that the conference recommend issuing bonds to finance the building of schools. He pointed out that the city of Amman is financially better off than other regions in the country and suggested that the Amman Municipal Council share the financial burden of funding the construction of school buildings. He also suggested that the private sector be drawn into the process of financing educational institutions.

Dr. Salma Jayoussi, a senior official of the Ministry of Education said the ministry ought to

'build schools without squandering money on superfluous luxuries, and gave the schools of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency as an example of economic buildings which provide all the necessary educational and hygienic requirements.

Some of the participants recommended that the parents of students, especially those belonging to higher income groups, ought to contribute towards the educational expenses of their children and advocated the imposition of a modest annual fee on the parents of students of compulsory school age enrolled in schools.

Dr. Salem was against this idea because he said it was in direct conflict with the country's constitution, which states that compulsory education is free.

Dr. Labibeh Salah, another Ministry of Education official, advocated that the spirit of self-reliance be cultivated among students and suggested that students should contribute to the maintenance of their own schools.

Dr. Abdul Malek Nashif of the Ministry of Education said that school buildings ought to be designed according to the requirements of changing approaches to education which are tending towards self-education and informal teaching methods.

Some participants suggested that standardised models of school buildings be designed in accordance with the environmental requirements of the different geographical regions in the country.

Some were in favour of students going to school on alternate days of the week while others felt that such a scheme would be detrimental.

The final paper presented at the conference put forward a number of suggestions for the improvement of the professional capability of Jordanian teachers. The paper suggested that the Ministry of Education finance programmes of postgraduate study for teachers already holding bachelor university degrees. It also advocated various programmes of continuing education for teachers at all levels such as refresher courses.

The paper also called for increasing incentives for high calibre candidates with suitable qualifications to enter the teaching profession by adding a professional allowance to the salaries of teachers and by ensuring housing facilities and social security schemes for them.

The paper pointed out that 32 per cent of the elementary school teachers graduating from teachers' training colleges do not have the necessary qualifications specified by the 1964 Ministry of Education Law, while 92 per cent of such graduates teaching at the secondary level do not have the necessary qualifications. Commenting on the paper, Mr. Munther Masri, the head of the Vocational Training Corporation, suggested that the period of study at teachers' training centres be

extended to three years, thus bringing teachers' training programmes closer to university education and increasing their prestige. This would increase the value attached to training college certificates and would ensure that individuals of high calibre would join the teaching profession.

Other participants suggested that teacher training programmes follow a credit hour system which would enable trainees to work on university degrees after their training if they so desired.

Most of the participants agreed that measures ought to be taken to raise the status of teaching to the level of other professions such as engineering and medicine, and Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh, the former minister of information, said that teachers should be as well paid as members of other professions.

Dr. Salem and other participants stressed the importance of boosting the morale of teachers by allowing them to participate in decision-making on professional matters and advocated a less centralised and autocratic system of education.

Minister of Information, Sa'id Al Tal advocated that the Ministry of Education provide housing facilities for teachers in remote parts of the country to ensure that these areas do not continue to suffer from a lack of qualified teachers. He also suggested that people qualified to teach ought to be encouraged to enter the teaching profession by offering them better salaries than they would receive for a similar ranking job with other government departments.

The Prime Minister, Abdul Hamid Sharaf, attended the final session of the conference, said that it had brought to light many fruitful ideas on education and had contributed towards informing the public of the problems facing the Ministry of Education. He added that the King's opening speech had outlined the necessary guidelines for issuing recommendations, especially concerning the issue of relating education to the needs of society.

He hoped the conference would recommend the holding of seminars and study sessions on the various aspects of education in Jordan. He said the conference should emphasise the dynamic character of education which requires the cooperation of all sectors of Jordanian society if educational growth and progress are to be achieved. He called for a continual re-evaluation of educational texts and suggested that the two universities and other specialised organisations participate in the production of school texts.

Sharif Abdul Hamid said he hoped that the recommendations issued by the conference would include measures that would facilitate their implementation.

The seven papers presented at the conference were reviewed and discussed. Mr. Shafik Nouri, the minister of education, said that his ministry intends to put the ideas presented by the papers at the conference into practice.

The participants decided to postpone announcing the final recommendations until Saturday.

Local group strikes responsive chord

By Fawzia Mai
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, May 15 — The Amman Performers achieved a success tonight when the varied audience with a strong local representation broke into enthusiastic applause with shouts of "encore!" "Well, we were going to do another song," smiled Edith Bilbeisi and the three singers then performed Schumann's "The Swallows" in three parts.

The concert at the Haya Centre tonight is the first by the Amman Performers, a group of five ladies, Edith Bilbeisi, soprano, Lexi Haddadin, soprano, Samia Ghanem, mezzo-soprano with pianist Nuhad Eid and Linda Schweinfurth.

The most acclaimed voice was Lexi Haddadin's soft soprano. Her beautiful rendition of Mozart's "Exultate, Jubilate", especially the final "Alleluia" won her instant respect. Another very popular number was the lively conversation of Brahms' "Vergebliches Standchen" where she joined gesture to words while depicting the pleading lover standing out in the cold, and the rejecting maid who refuses to open her door. To his cry of "My heart cries with cold, my love must soon die," she answers readily, "Let it die, if it is really dead, go on, go home to bed."

Edith Bilbeisi and Samia Ghanem were also well received. Samia Ghanem's solo "The Holy City" describing Jerusalem as it welcomes the Redeemer, where "the Cross stands over the lonely hill" and Jesus' rebirth makes Jerusalem the City of Heaven, touched many members of the audience with its dramatic melody. Mrs. Bilbeisi showed a versatile style and a particularly masterly handling of Hugo Wolf's "Das Verlassene Magdlein".

The most agreeably surprised member of the audience was most probably Mrs. Frances Hart, who was asked to come forward at the beginning of the second part of the concert to be given a huge bouquet of roses, as a token of the group's appreciation for the contributions Mrs. Hart has made in the field of music during her twelve years in Amman. They also expressed their regret at her departure next month.

Syrian cartoonist unleashes barbed wit at Arab attitudes



By Pat McDonnell
Special to the Jordan Times

DAMASCUS — It was worth a visit to the Arab Cultural Centre this week to view 50 political cartoons by Mohammad Aziz Ali. The artist was born in Tartous in 1947 and is serving in the Syrian Army on the front. He managed to get a few days furlough to exhibit his biting caricatures at the cultural centre.

The dangers of Camp David and dishonesty of Sadat is how he terms the two-fold message of his cartoons.

Mr. Ali's work demonstrates a barbed wit which he uses to illustrate Arab attitudes toward the Camp David accords, whether portraying a dove chained to a ball bearing the name "Camp David" or an Israeli urinating on the United Nations building. Another work illustrates Uncle Sam rubbing an Aladdin's lamp, while a genie emerges from the spout shaped in the form of Sadat wearing a Star of David around his neck.

A favourite of the viewers is a Star of David; from the six points of the star emerge a club, serpent, revolver, money pot, machinegun and a dollar sign. Perhaps the most ironical work is a portrayal of Sadat cutting off the limb of a tree while, a few metres below him, Begin is cutting the tree at its base.

This is Mr. Ali's fifth solo exhibition which includes a group of cartoons about the plight of the Palestinians. The others were in Odessa, U.S.S.R., 1975; the Arab Cultural Centre, 1976; and the Arab Cultural Centre of Homs, 1977 and 1979. He also exhibited oil paintings in Tartous in 1979.

The talented soldier has contributed political cartoons to Tishrin and Al Thawra newspapers since 1973 and he received the first prize at the 1979 Arab Cartoonists competition in Damascus. The exhibit ends Friday.



An Egyptian transistor airs its message

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P.O. Box 382
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Jordan Weekly Calendar

(Week of May 16 - May 23)
Exhibitions

Continuing: A photo exhibition entitled "My Library", presented by the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA) in cooperation with the Danish Ministry of Cultural Affairs, continues at the department. Presented under the patronage of the minister of culture and youth, the exhibition features photographs of Danish public libraries. Literature on the subject is also available. Visiting hours are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and 4 - 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, the last day of exhibition. The department is located on the fourth floor of the New Insurance Building near the Third Circle, in Jabal Amman.

Friday, May 16: The Jordanian Artists' Association presents an exhibition of posters and paintings under the patronage of the minister of culture and youth. The exhibition will run daily from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and from 4 - 7 p.m. through May 25 at the Artists' Association Exhibition Hall, across the street from the French Cultural Centre, in Jabal Luweibdeh.

Tuesday, May 17: A mosaic and ceramics exhibition of the work of Mr. Mohammad Al Sayed will be inaugurated at the Art Gallery of the Ministry of Culture, in Shmeisani. The exhibition will continue until May 22.

Wednesday, May 20: An exhibition of photography of Jordan will be inaugurated under the patronage of Dr. Muwaffaq Al Fawaz, minister of tourism and antiquities. The exhibition, sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities in cooperation with the Red Cross, French Cultural Centre and Air France, will open at 6 p.m. and the photographs will be presented.

Film

Friday, May 20: The Goethe Institute presents a film by Jean Renoir entitled "Deutschstunde" (1971), based on the novel by Roman von Siegfried Lenx and starring Wolfgang Ratter, Arno Assmann and Edda Seppel. The film, in black and white, starts at 8 p.m. Part II will be presented the following day, May 21 at the same time.

Media campaign to support Palestine

AMMAN, May 15 (JNA) — The Arab Journalists' Association (AJA) ended a three-day seminar here this afternoon with the adoption of several recommendations. The president of the AJA, Mr. Qasem Hammoudi, said that the general secretariat approved a plan to support the resistance of the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories. The plan, he added, included organising an international media campaign to explain the facts of the Arab conflict and the Arab stand on the occupied territories. The secretariat decided to use a joint programme to be implemented in Europe and Africa to expose Zionist imperialism, Mr. Hammoudi said. He added that the secretariat

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, May 15 (JNA) — The establishment of centres for local development was discussed at a meeting last night between Her Majesty Queen Noor and the mayor of Amman Mr. Isam 'Ajwini. The mayor, accompanied by several engineers and specialists, was entrusted with implementing the project, reported to the Queen on the progress taken in establishing two centres in Jabal Hashimi and a quarter in Amman. The two centres will serve as a model for other centres to be set up in Amman and other parts of the country for the young to exercise their cultural, sports and social activities. The centres will include football fields, swimming pools, gymnasiums, meeting halls. It was decided that work on the first stage of the project will be carried out soon so that young people can benefit from its summer.

AMMAN, May 15 (JNA) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Dr. Jamal Sha'er, outlined today to the National Consultative Council's public services and utilities committee, the ministry's plans and programmes for the coming year. The discussion held this morning centred on the role of the Development Bank for Municipalities and Village Councils, problems relating to organising towns and villages, powers, mayor, encroachment on government land, and problems pertaining to water and electricity.

RASH, May 15 (JNA) — Jerash municipality has drawn up a five-year plan to enlarge the town, a municipality spokesman said here today. The plan entails constructing new streets, creating an industrial zone, building a water-pipe network and establishing public parks. The plan also includes finalising the sewerage project of which 1 per cent has already been completed.

AMMAN, May 15 (JNA) — The two bridges across the River Jordan will be closed from 11 o'clock on Tuesday, May 20 until Thursday May 22, a statement by the Public Security Directorate said today. The statement did not give any reason for the closure.

AMMAN, May 15 (JT) — Sixteen Japanese businessmen employed in Japanese multi-national companies arrive here Friday for a five-day lecture on what positions their companies can adopt regarding the Middle East. A spokesman from the Jordan Electricity Authority — which helped to arrange the details of the trip — told the Jordanian media today that the businessmen will attend lectures by professors at the University of Jordan in addition to other activities. He added that the trip was initiated by the businessmen themselves and that Jordan is the first stop on their itinerary which includes Kuwait and the Gulf States.

AMMAN, May 15 (JNA) — Directors of air traffic control in four Arab states started a two-day meeting here today to establish cooperation in air transport. Representatives from Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Iraq are discussing cooperation in telecommunications, transport and air routes. The meeting being held at the Directorate of Civil Aviation, has been organised because of the increased air traffic between the participating countries.

ALGIERS, May 15 (JNA) — Jordan's new ambassador to Algeria, Mr. Yassin Istanboudi, last night presented his credentials to President Chadli Ben Jedid. In the presentation ceremony, both the ambassador and the president emphasised the need for further promoting cooperation between Jordan and Algeria.

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British workers ignore strike call

LONDON, May 15 (Agencies) -- Most of Britain's workers yesterday ignored a call by the Trades Union Congress (TUC) to take part in a national day of protest against the Conservative government's economic and social policies.

The main employers organisation, the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), estimated between 90 and 95 per cent of workers in its member-firms turned up for work, while some 130 rallies and marches organised by unions around the country attracted far smaller support than anticipated. Critical newspapers today headlined it as "a flop" and "day of disaster".

One cabinet minister, Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor,

quickly described the protest action a failure and said it had provided Conservatives with the "best propaganda weapon they have had in 30 years." Among rank-and-file trade unionists there was increasing resentment about "the incompetence and stupidity of some of their leaders," he declared.

TUC General-Secretary Len Murray told reporters its "day of action" had succeeded in getting over the message about the damage being done in Britain's economy, and said the campaign would continue. "We are interested in issues, not numbers," he said.

The biggest response to the TUC's call came in Scotland, South Wales, and Merseyside in

northwest England, especially among dockers and coal miners. The National Coal Board said 106 out of 219 pits had fully or partly worked. Southampton and Liverpool ports were largely at a standstill.

No national newspapers appeared in London yesterday, but provincial papers were published. The great majority of factories opened as usual. British Leyland said only 4,000 of its 14,000 vehicles production workers failed to report for duty. Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) said absenteeism among its 88,000-strong work-force was less than usual.

A surprise development was the large number of rail and bus workers who arrived to run

reduced services. The expected transport chaos did not materialise although a big increase in road traffic caused congestion. Inter-city express services were crippled, but London's underground railway system was almost normal and most cities had buses operating. There were practically no trains in Scotland.

Only a few flights out of London's Heathrow airport were delayed. More commuters than normal took to bicycles and scooters to make sure they got to work.

In recent months, increasing numbers of Britain's 12 million union members have demonstrated more concern for getting a job and keeping it than in using strikes to fight their leaders' battles. Thousands of steelworkers rebelled against their union and

went back to work in March during the national steel strike.

More than 27,000 miners in Wales, refused to strike in February to show solidarity with the steelworkers and also protest job cutbacks in their own area. The 11,000 autoworkers at a British Leyland plant voted overwhelmingly in February against striking for the reinstatement of a fired communist union official.

The public reaction and Mrs. Thatcher's hands-off policy toward union-management negotiations have considerably weakened the political clout of the union leaders, making it more difficult to get large wage settlements. And with 1.5 million unemployed and inflation running at 19.8 per cent, workers are less inclined to strike.

Turkey bans sale of sugar

ANKARA, May 15 (R) -- The Turkish government banned the sale of sugar in the country from midday today, pending new price increases, the state radio reported. The government's announcement said the ban would last until midday Saturday, until when all wholesale dealers are obliged to report their stocks to authorities.

Turkey recently started to import sugar for the first time in over 15 years because of a serious fall in production. Many of the country's sugar factories have been operating at less than half capacity due to shortage of fuel since the winter months, according to officials.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATE

LONDON, May 15 (R) -- Following are the buying and selling for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the closing on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets.

One sterling	2.3000/15	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1783/86	Canadian dollar
	1.7898/7908	West German mark
	1.9690/9715	Dutch guilders
	1.6620/40	Swiss francs
	28.78/81	Belgian francs
	4.1800/50	French francs
	842.25/843.00	Italian lire
	227.20/50	Japanese yen
	4.2150/2200	Swedish crowns
	4.9000/50	Norwegian crowns
	5.5925/6000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	515.00/517.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, May 15 (R) -- The market closed lower after a quiet session, dealers said. At 1500 the FT index was down 1.6 at 438. Government bonds ended as much as 1/4 point lower. Dealers said the latest U.K. money supply figures had little impact on prices but they noted a late mark down after Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said U.K. interest rates could not come down while loan demand remained so high. Oils declined while shares fluctuated to close mixed. U.S. stocks eased but Canada were higher.

Tricentral lost 6p while BP and Shell both shed 4p. Burns fell 3p but Ultramar was 2p stronger. General Accident dipped 16p to 240p but Trafalgar House was 1 1/2p firmer at 70 1/2p, to after figures.

CT Bowring ended a penny up at 155p after Marsh's McLennan said the Bowring merger would help its expansion non-U.S. insurance broking markets.

Saudi Arabia's oil production to be reduced in the long-term

RIYADH, May 15 (R) -- Saudi Arabia plans to reduce its oil production in the long-term and is not speeding up its programme to expand output capacity as widely reported in the West, authoritative Saudi sources say. But Saudi Arabia, which is at present producing about 9.5 million barrels of crude oil a day, is capable of

pumping out an extra two million barrels a day at short notice for a limited period only, they add.

Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani said last week that although his country had the capacity to produce more, it did not intend to go over the present daily 9.5 million barrels mark. It had not yet decided whether to

maintain output at this level beyond July 1, he added.

Saudi Arabia yesterday announced a two-dollars-a-barrel increase in its oil price, backdated to April 1. Its benchmark light crude oil was until then priced at \$26 a barrel.

At a news conference last week at the end of an OPEC meeting in

Taif, the Saudi summer capital, Sheikh Yamani would not comment further on his country's oil production policies. Saudi Arabia has a theoretical oil production ceiling of 8.5 million barrels a day but decided last year to produce an extra one million barrels daily to help relieve a world shortage after a sharp decline in oil exports

from revolutionary Iran.

The situation is reviewed by the Saudi government every quarter and the next revision is due after the June 9 OPEC price conference in Algiers, officials said. The Saudi sources said no official date had been set for an eventual reduction in Saudi output but this has been

enshrined in the new five-year development plan.

The conservative kingdom, owner of the world's largest known oil reserves, has in the past been willing to increase production when necessary to ease oil supply shortages and dampen pressures for oil price increases.

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W. German NOC votes 'yes' on Olympic boycott

DUESSELDORF, West Germany, May 15 (R) — The West German National Olympic Committee (NOC) today voted against sending a team to the Moscow Olympics.

The NOC voted by 59 votes to 40 in favour of boycotting the games.

The decision was the first by sports chiefs of a major West European country to support President Carter's call for a boycott of the Olympics over the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The French and British NOCs plan to send teams to Moscow, but the West German decision could sway the votes in other West European countries which have

yet to decide.

Today's meeting in a Dueseldorf hotel lasted four hours. National sports federation President Willi Weyer led the argument for boycotting the Moscow Games.

NOC President Willi Daume, a member of the International Olympic Committee who chaired the meeting, was the chief spokesman for sending a team.

The meeting was broadcast live on West German television. Mr. Daume repeated a recommendation by the committee president, which last week urged the NOC to refrain from sending a team in protest at the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

But he also declared that the

Olympic ideal applied above all to the athletes who competed, and "however we decide, we must think of these sportsmen."

Since France decided two days ago to send a team to Moscow, West German officials who would like to do the same had said they did not want to be the ones in Western Europe left virtually alone in supporting a boycott.

France and Britain are among eight West European countries who have decided to attend the games. West Germany, Liechtenstein, Monaco and Norway are now the only ones on the continent committed to a boycott.

Others, such as the Netherlands, Belgium and Italy, have yet to decide.

West Germany's importance is not lost on the Soviet bloc either. East German Sports Federation Chief Manfred Ewald has been in West Germany this week trying to persuade his western colleagues to send a team to Moscow.

The West German NOC president voted last Friday 12-7, with one abstention, to recommend a boycott. Today 23 sports associations, with three votes each, and 31 individual members had the final say.

A boatful of Cuban refugees heads for Florida

Cubans plan anti-U.S. march at Havana mission

HAVANA, May 15 (R) — More than a million Cubans are expected to take part in a "march of the fighting people" on Saturday past the United States diplomatic mission in Havana.

The marchers will be demanding the lifting of the trade embargo maintained against Cuba by Washington since 1961, closure of the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo in eastern Cuba, and the ending of overflights by American reconnaissance planes.

President Fidel Castro spelled out these demands recently to a vast May-Day crowd in Havana's Revolution Square.

Some 40,000 refugees have left in small boats for Florida in the past three weeks, in an exodus seen by the government as the result of past encouragement by Washington.

The Cuban government depicts most of the refugees as criminals and anti-social elements who might have served as a "fifth column" for a U.S. invasion.

Meanwhile, the U.S. State Department said last night it was evacuating 17 of its visa office staff and their dependents from Havana because of what it called a mounting anti-American propaganda campaign in Cuba.

S. African students present ultimatum after stoning death

JOHANNESBURG, May 15 (R) — Militant South African schoolchildren presented the government with an ultimatum hours after 2,000 of them stoned to death a black taxi driver sent as a peacekeeper.

Thousands of mainly coloured (mixed race) teenagers have been boycotting classes for the past month in protest against unequal funding of education for whites and non-whites.

The taxi driver Alfred Smya was one of a group of "peacekeepers" appointed by parents in Port Elizabeth to try to persuade their children to return to school. But a crowd of 2,000 black children turned on the men and Mr. Smya was battered to death by a hail of stones.

It was the first killing since the protest began. The students today gave the government three weeks to accede to their demands, and said they would take action if nothing was done in that time.

The ultimatum called for the release of all political prisoners, and a commitment to redress their grievances about the education system.

"What we are demanding are

not favours to be given at the whim of the rulers, but our inalienable human rights," their statement said.

The schoolchildren's demands also include equal salaries for teachers of all races, a start on repair work to poor quality school buildings, and an adequate supply of textbooks.

If the June 6 deadline is not met, the pupils say they will call on their parents to join a struggle for a "non-racial, non-exploitative" society.

But parents, although sympathetic, have so far urged their children to go back to school. One

pupil leader referred to them as: "just Uncle Toms; they have put up with the conditions for so long that they don't realise how bad they are."

Most of the protesters are coloured high school children aged between 13 and 18, but many blacks have adopted a militant stance.

At the black university of Fort Hare, nearly 3,000 students are refusing to attend lectures, while the black homeland of KwaZulu has distributed pamphlets asking children to stop damaging school property.

Paris students battle police over foreigners

PARIS, May 15 (R) — Police today reported 35 of their men injured, two seriously, during clashes yesterday with thousands of student demonstrators protesting against restrictions on foreign students.

They said 140 people were arrested during the second day of disturbances and 21 would be

charged with offences against public order.

The number of injured demonstrators is not known but on Tuesday a 30-year-old man died when he fell through a roof during a police raid on a university campus.

Sporadic clashes continued until late last night in Paris' Latin Quarter with motorcycle police chasing small groups of demonstrators hurling firebombs.

Strong police forces were stationed throughout the night around the Jussieu branch of Paris University preventing anyone from entering the campus, which has been the centre of agitation.

The protests in Paris and several provincial cities are against plans to curb the number of foreign students in France. The government says the figure of over 100,000 foreigners in a total student body of 850,000 is the highest of any major country.

S.F. suit seeks \$20b damages from screening of 'Princess'

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15 (AP) — A suit seeking more than \$20 billion in damages allegedly incurred because of the American television broadcast of "Death of a Princess" was filed in federal court here yesterday.

The action, filed on behalf of the world's Muslim population by two Muslim attorneys who are among the plaintiffs, claimed the film was "produced and aired" as part of an "international conspiracy to insult, ridicule, discredit and abuse followers of Islam throughout the world."

The defendants include Mr. David Fanning and Mr. Antony Thomas, producers of the film; ATV of England, which produced the film for broadcast in that country on April 12; Mr. Lawrence Grossman, president of the Public Broadcasting Service; KQED, the public TV station in San Francisco which carried the film Monday evening; and WGBH, the public television station in Boston which provided "Death of a Princess" to PBS.

Plaintiffs in the suit included Mr. Khalid Abdullah Tariq, Al Monsoor and Mr. Faisal Fahd Al Talal, the attorneys who filed the suit; the Concerned Black Africans in Support of Africa and the Middle East; Islamic Centres of America; the Akbar Institute and the Muslim League of Canada.

The court was asked to award damages in excess of \$20 billion and to order the funds placed in a trust to spread Islam throughout the world.

The movie, broadcast by more than 100 public TV stations in this country, was based on the 1977

execution of a Saudi Arabian princess and her commoner lover. They had been accused of adultery.

Saudi Arabia's government was outraged by the English broadcast of the film, and ordered Britain's ambassador to leave the country.

Saudi Arabia complained to the U.S. State Department just before the American screening, and the protest was forwarded to PBS. Neither the Saudis nor the State Department asked that the broadcast be cancelled.

Suits were filed in San Francisco and Atlanta to block the broadcast, but both were rejected. Stations in South Carolina and Alabama, as well as one each in Houston and Los Angeles, did not show "Death of a Princess."

The suit said issues involved relate to the "legality of public broadcasting by corporations, licensed and funded by the federal government, wilfully and maliciously airing defamatory and sacrilegious programme."

The suit said the action was filed on behalf of more than 600 million followers of the Islamic faith throughout the world, including more than 3 million adherents in the United States and another half million in Canada.

American employees in Saudi Arabia and U.S. citizens "who are committed to a respect for world and Islamic traditions" were also included among the plaintiffs.

The suit gives details of a letter plaintiffs sent to PBS and WGBH on April 23 calling attention to what was alleged to be the "defamatory and pernicious nature of this film."

Muskie calls proposal 'meaningless' Kabul proposes talks with Iran Pakistan to lead to Soviet pull

VIENNA, May 15 (R) — U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie today dismissed a call by Soviet-backed Afghanistan for international guarantees as "cosmetic and not meaningful."

Mr. Muskie said the proposal by the Kabul government yesterday was aimed at diverting Islamic countries from further condemnation of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

The newly-appointed secretary of state spoke at an airport press conference here. He is due to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in Vienna tomorrow.

Mr. Muskie said the Kabul statement was timed to influence a conference of Islamic states starting at Islamabad, Pakistan, on Saturday.

"Its obvious purpose is to deflect the Islamabad conference rather than a serious response to our demand for the withdrawal of Soviet troops," he said.

"So I regard it as cosmetic and not a meaningful proposal."

Mr. Muskie arrived from Brussels, where he attended a NATO conference, to join in celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Austrian state treaty which restored Austria's independence following World War II occupation.

Mr. Gromyko arrives here tomorrow to take part in the two-day festivities, and will spend about two hours in discussions with Mr. Muskie.

The meeting will be the first at a high level between the two countries since Soviet troops moved into Afghanistan last December, resulting in serious new strains in East-West relations.

The Kabul government, in a statement distributed by the Soviet news agency Tass, called for pledges by neighbouring Pakistan and Iran not to commit hostile acts against Afghanistan.

It said such pledges, if backed by the U.S. and the Soviet Union, could lead to the withdrawal of an estimated 80,000 to 100,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

The Afghan statement surprised U.S. officials, and first reactions from Washington were highly cautious.

The U.S., strongly backed by NATO, has demanded complete withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Mr. Muskie said the Kabul initiative showed the Soviet Union was beginning to feel the pressure of international condemnation for its action in Afghanistan.

He described the proposal for political talks between Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran as an interesting development.

But he said the question of Soviet withdrawal was touched on only in ambiguous terms, and seemed to be dependent on foreign recognition of the Soviet-installed government in Kabul and on acceptance of Soviet intervention as legitimate.

U.S. officials said they expected the Afghan proposal would be discussed in detail in tomorrow's meeting between Mr. Muskie and Mr. Gromyko.

The Afghan proposal called for talks with Pakistan and Iran which it said could pave the way for a withdrawal of Soviet troops from its territory.

The government statement said the two countries would have to give pledges, backed by the United States and the Soviet Union, not to commit hostile acts against Afghanistan.

The Kabul government said: "The question of withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan will depend in concrete terms on the resolution of the question of effective guarantees for Afghanistan's bilateral agreements with Pakistan and Iran."

Afghan leaders blame rebellion by tribal guerrillas on outside interference, and have accused the U.S. and Pakistan of waging an undeclared war.

The statement did not specify what guarantees should be given by Moscow and Washington, but said they should be an inalienable part of the political solution.

The statement brought an immediate reaction from Chinese Vice Premier Li Zhiannan, on a visit to New Zealand. "Neither Pakistan nor Iran has any power to interfere in the internal affairs of Afghanistan," he said.

Commenting on the Afghan government's statement he said: "I think it is a lie."

He said the Soviet Union had no intention of withdrawing its troops.

In New Delhi, Pakistan's ambassador to India said today that the Afghan crisis could not be resolved through talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan because the issues involved had global rather than bilateral implications.

Ambassador Abdul Sattar said the crisis could only be defused by an end to the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Mr. Sattar said proposals for a meeting between Pakistan and Afghanistan misconceived the problem, "if it is not entirely a tactical exercise in propaganda."

"The government of Pakistan has never interfered in Afghanistan... we have no claim against Afghanistan. We do not covet an inch of its territory and we want only that Kabul should observe the principle of respect for territorial integrity fundamental to good relations between neighbouring states," Mr. Sattar said.

The Kabul statement urged Iran to promote friendly relations and cooperation for the benefit of both sides. The discussions with Pakistan should prepare an agreement on the normalisation of relations, it added.

It proposed the talks with both countries without any preconditions, and said that once they began "there should be no more hostile activities against Afghanistan."

"Afghanistan declares that the question of withdrawal of the limited Soviet military contingents from Afghanistan should be resolved within the framework of a political situation," it said.

"The ending of any attacks not any other interference in Afghan internal affairs will be would remove the cause made Afghanistan an USSR for military aid said."

Meanwhile, travellers in New Delhi from reported heavy fighting Soviet troops and Afghan the important towns south of Kabul. Ghazni one of the busiest area activity in Afghanistan.

A western traveller: battle is still going on. the Soviets are finding tougher than they would be."

Last week traveller New Delhi from Afghanistan of 900 Soviet tanks armoured vehicles taking the fighting in Ghazni.

Another traveller, a man school teacher Schnabel, said he had demonstrations in Kabul last few days, and an Afghan leader in exile claimed that Czech troops arrived in Afghanistan past 10 days.

Mr. Schnabel, who at West German embassy Kabul, said there were stragglers there until a week which women and girls prominent part.

Mr. Amin Wakman, general of the Afghan Democrat Party, today a conference in New Delhi 5,000 Czech troops flown to Kabul. He said mation came from reliable in Afghanistan. "We at the Warsaw Pact," he said.

This is the first time troops have been rep Afghanistan.

Western diplomatic New Delhi who monitor Afghanistan closely said not aware that Czech troops in the country and there no mention of their presence Kabul or Prague.

Soviet troops in Afghanistan at least 90,000, to the latest Western estimates.

NATO ministers agree up military preparedness

BRUSSELS, May 15 (Agencies) NATO's 15 member nations have agreed to take urgent measures to boost military preparedness and called on the Soviet Union to make a total and immediate withdrawal of all its forces in Afghanistan.

The call for Moscow to pull out of Afghanistan came at the end of a three-day special meeting yesterday of foreign and defence ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

A communiqué told the Kremlin that the people of Afghanistan must be free to shape their future without outside interference.

It said an altered strategic situation in Southwest Asia, caused by the Soviet action in Afghanistan, warranted "full solidarity and the strengthening of allied cohesion as a response to the new challenges."

The new U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Edmund Muskie, will convey NATO's message to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko when they meet in Vienna on Friday. It will be the first high level contact between the two powers since Soviet forces moved into Afghanistan in strength in late December.

The allies agreed on a two-

phase programme aimed at military preparedness ing some of the burden United States.

The first stage will readiness throughout the area, which includes Europe, the North Atlantic North America.

A U.S. official said measures included better protection against chemical and increased stocks of a tion.

The second phase, to be over three to four years, an increase in trained reserve military assistance alliance's weakest member tugal and Turkey.

In a move to free the Force for troop movements side the NATO area in civilian wide-bodied jets used to ferry equipment to from the United States.

NATO countries agreed 1978 to increase defence by three per cent each year some countries — notably Portugal, Denmark and B — have fallen short. The was reaffirmed at the meeting all member countries agreed and reach it.

Mr. Shigeta harbours no ill toward Tex for rejecting him, Archibald said. "He thinks I very smart," he said. "She recognises individuals. She knows own mind. She's not predictable like other birds."

Mr. Shigeta eventually moved on to other parts the Baraboo facility. He return to Tokyo in August.

Two foundation aviculturists Mr. Chris Lerue and Mr. Hoffman, have taken over and to dance regularly with Tex she begins to moult at the May. Other human dancers try again next year.

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World News Briefs

TOKYO, May 15 (R) — The \$2-a-barrel increase in the cost of Saudi Arabian crude oil will boost Japan's oil import bill this year by \$87.6 million to just over \$59 billion, the International Trade and Industry Ministry said today. Last year, Japan, which imports virtually all of its oil with about 30 per cent coming from Saudi Arabia, paid an estimated \$35 billion. The Ministry said the Saudi move would probably not lead to immediate increases in the prices of Japanese oil products, because demand was relatively low at present.

ATHENS, May 15 (R) — Veteran politician Mr. Constantine Karamanlis was sworn in today for a five-year term as the country's president. Mr. Karamanlis, 73, a former prime minister, replaces Mr. Constantine Tsatsos, 81, whose term was due to end on June 20.

MEXICO CITY, May 15 (R) — President Jose Lopez Portillo left yesterday for a 12-day visit to four Western countries during which he will try to strengthen Mexico's trading ties by using his country's huge oil reserves as a bargaining point. The president, accompanied by some of his key ministers, will visit France, West Germany, Sweden and Canada.

TOKYO, May 15 (AP) — Japanese Foreign Minister Sahuro Okita leaves Saturday for Britain, France and West Germany for regular consultations on bilateral and international issues, during which Iran and Afghanistan are expected to dominate the talks. Mr. Okita will meet first with French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet in Paris on May 19, then fly to London the following day for talks with British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington. He leaves May 23 for West Germany for talks with Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Report gives \$4.6b price tag for U.S. rapid deployment force

WASHINGTON, May 15 (AP) — A U.S. congressional report says it would cost about \$4.6 billion to turn the Marine Corps into a rapid-strike force that could move 65,000 marines into combat in the Persian Gulf or other trouble spots within two weeks.

The Congressional Budget Office, in a 63-page report released today, lists the option as one of four alternatives for the future role of the Marine Corps in the U.S. defence structure. The report contained no recommendation of which role Congress should choose.

One option, the report says, is for Congress to approve, without change, creation of the "rapid deployment force" requested by U.S. President Jimmy Carter as one of the U.S. responses to the Soviet military move into Afghanistan. Mr. Carter wants to develop new planes and ships, and pre-position combat equipment in the Arabian Gulf so Navy or Marine combat troops could be quickly moved into battle there.

The report says the total cost for the Marine Corps, including its role in Mr. Carter's rapid deployment force, would be about \$44.8 billion over the next five years.

The report's second option, with a \$49.4 billion price tag, is to turn the Marine Corps into the rapid deployment force, equipped with air-landed amphibious vehicles and vertical-short takeoff-and-landing planes to carry combat troops hundreds of miles from landing beaches into battle in isolated areas.

The Marine force, as well as Mr. Carter's rapid deployment force, also would need to base ships at the small Diego Garcia atoll in the Indian Ocean, which would carry combat equipment and some troops. The report says the \$49.4 billion programme could keep 8,000 marines on ships in the Indian Ocean and an additional 57,000 ready to move in quickly in a sudden battle.